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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/328,066	06/08/1999	STEPHEN WILLIAM HILLIER	0500.01326	6282

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VEDDER PRICE KAUFMAN & KAMMHOLZ
222 N. LASALLE STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60601

EXAMINER

LANIER, BENJAMIN E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2132

DATE MAILED: 04/22/2004

13

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/328,066

Applicant(s)

HILLIER ET AL.

Examiner

Benjamin E Lanier

Art Unit

2132

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 April 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,6-11,13-33 and 36-48 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,6-11,13-17,32,33 and 36-48 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 18-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 08 June 1999 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's amendment of claims 1, 6, 13, 23, 32, 40, 45, cancellation of claims 5, 12, 35, and addition of claim 48 has been fully considered and is entered.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments, see paper 12, filed 05 April 2004, with respect to claims 18-31 have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Appelbaum, in view of Auerbach.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
 2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
 3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
 4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.
4. Claims 18, 19, 20-24, 27-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Appelbaum, U.S. Patent No. 4,683,968, in view of Auerbach, U.S. Patent No. 5,673,316.

Art Unit: 2132

Referring to claims 18, 19, 23, 24, 27, Appelbaum discloses a system for preventing software piracy wherein a protected program can be run on only a selected number of computers and there is a unique key for each computer. The key being triple encrypted (double key package), and the triple encrypted key is sent to the computer (second party) where a single decryption procedure is performed by a checker program at the computer and the result is sent to a module (third party). The module performs a single decryption procedure and sends the result back to the computer (second party). The check program at the computer then performs another single decryption procedure on it to obtain the unique key which allows the computer to utilize the protected program (Abstract). Appelbaum does not disclose that the encryption keys used in the system for software piracy prevention are asymmetric keys. Auerbach discloses a cryptographic envelope wherein the cryptographic envelope is used to provide access to digital data to authorized users. The only way that users can access the encrypted digital data is to purchase the necessary part encryption keys. Accordingly a cryptographic envelope can be created and distributed to a number of users, where only authorized users have access to the clear text content of the secure information parts. Each of the information parts is encrypted with a corresponding part encryption key to generate an encrypted information part. Each part encryption key is then encrypted with a public key. A list of parts that are included in the envelope is also created, and each entry in the list has a part name and a secure hash of the named part. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the asymmetric key of Auerbach in the software piracy prevention system of Appelbaum in order to eliminate the need for a key identifier database as taught by Auerbach (Col. 1, lines 19-25).

Referring to claim 20, 28, Auerbach discloses that the secret key of the Document server (third party) is used to digitally sign the envelope for authentication purposes (Col. 5, lines 12-53).

Referring to claims 22, 23, 29, 30, Auerbach discloses that upon receipt of the cryptographic envelope the user must agree to terms and conditions, and therefore a verification of receipt is made when the agreement is made (Col. 10, lines 35-61).

5. Claims 25, 26, 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Appelbaum, U.S. Patent No. 4,683,968, in view of Auerbach, U.S. Patent No. 5,673,316 as applied to claims 23, 24, 27, 29, 30 above, and further in view of Perlman, U.S. Patent No. 5,351,295. Referring to claims 25, 26, 31, Appelbaum discloses a system for preventing software piracy wherein a protected program can be run on only a selected number of computers and there is a unique key for each computer. The key being triple encrypted (double key package), and the triple encrypted key is sent to the computer (second party) where a single decryption procedure is performed by a checker program at the computer and the result is sent to a module (third party). The module performs a single decryption procedure and sends the result back to the computer (second party). The check program at the computer then performs another single decryption procedure on it to obtain the unique key which allows the computer to utilize the protected program (Abstract). Auerbach discloses a cryptographic envelope wherein the cryptographic envelope is used to provide access to digital data to authorized users. The only way that users can access the encrypted digital data is to purchase the necessary part encryption keys. Accordingly a cryptographic envelope can be created and distributed to a number of users, where only authorized users have access to the clear text content of the secure information parts.

Art Unit: 2132

Each of the information parts is encrypted with a corresponding part encryption key to generate an encrypted information part. Each part encryption key is then encrypted with a public key. A list of parts that are included in the envelope is also created, and each entry in the list has a part name and a secure hash of the named part. Appelbaum does not disclose providing a time stamp with the data. Perlman discloses a time stamp that is encrypted and sent along with the data (Col. 2, lines 53-59). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a time stamp in the system for preventing software piracy of Appelbaum in order to prevent attacks on the data as discloses in Perlman (Col. 2, lines 49-59).

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 1-4, 6-11, 13-17, 32, 33, 36-48 allowed.

7. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The prior art does not disclose the three party cryptographic communication methods as claimed wherein data is encrypted with a first party's key, sent along with the first party key to a second party to be encrypted with a second party's encryption key to produce a key package, and then encrypting the key package with a third party's encryption key to produce an encrypted key package. Further the prior art does not disclose the third party tracking the data delivery of the encrypted key package.

Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Benjamin E Lanier whose telephone number is 703-305-7684. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 7:30am-5:00pm, F 7:30am-4pm.

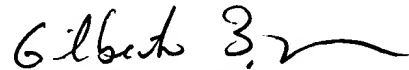
Art Unit: 2132

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached on (703)305-1830. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Benjamin E. Lanier



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